

## Everybody's Problem

President Nixon made a pertinent point in his Los Angeles news conference when he stressed the fact that pollution is everybody's problem.

Referring to the blanket of smog which had hung over the eastern seaboard all week, the President noted that smog isn't a condition limited to Southern California.

There isn't any short-range answer to the problem, either, he said, explaining it is impossible to get the kind of automobile engine which would be

pollution-free in a year, or two years, or even three.

But Congress could pass his anti-pollution bill, he continued, and see that the automobile industry makes an effort to conform, with other industries being urged at the same time to use the kind of fuels which would reduce fallout.

"Now we realize we don't have much time left, and it's time for Congress to get (his proposals) on the front burner," he added.

## News Not All Bad

It's encouraging that the news these days relative to pollution is not all bad.

For example, from Columbia Falls comes the report, "Of much interest this summer is the vitality and appearance of Ponderosa pine."

A year ago, on July 4, the top page one headline in the Hungry Horse News read: "Fluorides Killing Ponderosa Pine in Flathead."

"Some trees look better, and it's an indicator that Anaconda Aluminum Co.

has reduced fluoride emissions," the News said a few days ago. While stepping up production at the Columbia Falls plant from 105,000 tons of metal in 1968 to the current rate of 175,000 tons annually, the company is reported to have reduced fluoride emissions from 7,500 pounds per day to 4,500 pounds.

"Continued reductions are indicated and trees should look better," the News concludes.